

Please amend claim 30 as follows:

- a<sup>3</sup>
30. A pressure sensitive adhesive copolymer comprising
- (a) at least one A monomer selected from the group consisting of an alkyl acrylate containing 4 to 12 carbon atoms in the alkyl group and an alkyl methacrylate containing 4 to 12 carbon atoms in the alkyl group; and
  - (b) pyrrolidonoethyl acrylate.

A version marked up to show changes made to the claims relative to the previous version of the claims is attached.

#### Remarks

Claims 1 to 30 are pending. Claim 6 has been canceled. Claims 1, 28 and 30 are amended.

Claims 1 to 30 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. '902 in view of U.S. '996 or WO '229, possibly further in view of U.S. '585. It is submitted that this rejection is in error in relation to amended independent claims 1, 28 and 30 which all now require pyrrolidonoethyl acrylate. As the Examiner recognizes, none of these publications generically or specifically teaches or suggests inclusion of that monomer.

Further, it is not even agreed that one skilled in the art would combine the publications as the Examiner suggests to obtain the invention of claims 1, 28 and 30.

Claims depending from independent claims 1, 28 or 30 are patentable over the cited publications for the same reason as claims 1, 28 and 30. Also, the dependent claims are even further removed from the prior art and are patentable for additional reasons as well.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.  
Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

By: 

Robert W. Sprague, Reg. No.: 30,497  
Telephone No.: (651) 733-4247

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel  
3M Innovative Properties Company  
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833

**Version with markings to show amendments made:**

1. (Amended) A pressure sensitive adhesive composition comprising a copolymer comprising
  - (a) at least one A monomer selected from the group consisting of an alkyl acrylate containing 4 to 12 carbon atoms in the alkyl group and an alkyl methacrylate containing 4 to 12 carbon atoms in the alkyl group; and
  - (b) ~~at least one pyrrolidone monomer selected from the group consisting of pyrrolidonoethyl acrylate and pyrrolidonoethyl methacrylate.~~
  
28. (Amended) A method for transdermal delivery of a drug comprising the steps of
  - (A) a step of providing a composition comprising
    - (i) a copolymer comprising
      - (a) at least one A monomer selected from the group consisting of an alkyl acrylate containing 4 to 12 carbon atoms in the alkyl group and an alkyl methacrylate containing 4 to 12 carbon atoms in the alkyl group; and
      - (b) ~~at least one pyrrolidone monomer selected from the group consisting of pyrrolidonoethyl acrylate and pyrrolidonoethyl methacrylate; and~~
    - (ii) a drug in an amount such that the composition delivers a therapeutically effective amount for the indication being treated; and
  - (B) a step of applying the composition to an external part of the human body for a period sufficient to achieve the desired therapeutic result.
  
30. (Amended) A pressure sensitive adhesive copolymer comprising
  - (a) at least one A monomer selected from the group consisting of an alkyl acrylate containing 4 to 12 carbon atoms in the alkyl group and an alkyl methacrylate containing 4 to 12 carbon atoms in the alkyl group; and
  - (b) ~~at least one pyrrolidone monomer selected from the group consisting of pyrrolidonoethyl acrylate and pyrrolidonoethyl methacrylate.~~